

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ARA-11 ADP-00 AID-20 EB-11 NSC-10 RSC-01

CIEP-02 SAL-01 SS-14 STR-08 OMB-01 CEA-02 OPIC-12

TRSE-00 CIAE-00 INR-09 NSAE-00 RSR-01 /117 W
----- 014879

R 242211 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY QUITO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6916

INFO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 QUITO 1476

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OCON, ECLA

SUBJ: ECLA 15 TH SESSION: AMB SANTA CRUZ' STATEMENT

SUMMARY. AMB SANTA CRUZ (CHILE) SPECIAL INVITEE OF ECLA TO 25 TH ANNIVERSARY SESSION MADE ONE HOUR STATEMENT MARCH 23 GIVING HIS PERSONAL (HE NOT MEMBER OF CHILEAN DELEGATION) VIEW OF ECLA'S PAST AND FUTURE. HIS CENTRAL THEME WAS OF UNEVEN 25- YEAR HISTORY OF LATIN " ERADICATION OF EXTERNAL DEPENDENCY", CONSEQUENT CHANGE IN LA CIRCUMSTANCES VIS- A- VIS THE WORLD COMMUNITY AND THE NEED TO HAVE THAT CHANGED CONDITION REFLECTED IN INTER-AMERICAN SYSTEM AND UN BODIES. HE PROPOSED THAT ECLA SHOULD BECOME A " GENUINE LATIN AMERICAN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGENCY", EXCLUDING NON- LATIN AMERICAN STATES. END SUMMARY.

1. AT PM MEETING OF ECLA PLENARY MARCH 23, AMB SANTA CRUZ WHO TOGETHER WITH OTHER LUMINARIES OF THE HEMISPHERE SUCH PREBISCH, JOHN CATTESS, AMB FRAZAO, ETC. HAD BEEN INVITED AS SPECIAL GUESTS TO ATTEND THE 25 TH ANNIVERSARY MEETING OF ECLA, DELEVERED A ONE HOUR PREPARED STATEMENT ON THE HISTORY AND FUTURE OF ECLA. COMMENCING WITH THE PERIOD 1946-47, SANTA CRUZ SAID THAT ECOSOC' S DEBATES AND PRIORITIES HAD BEEN SKEWED
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TOWARD THE CONCERNS OF WAR, EUROPEAN RECONSTRUCTION, RECONSTITUTION OF TRADE AND CONSEQUENTLY AWAY FROM LATIN AMERICA. HE WENT ON TO DESCRIBE 1947-48 CONSULTATIONS WHICH LED TO ESTABLISHMENT OF ECLA, BUT SAID THAT TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE COMMISSION WERE NOT HONORED FROM BEGINNING DUE TO UN' S PRE-OCCUPATION WITH EUROPEAN PROBLEMS AND LATER DUE TO THE EMERGENCE OF COLD WAR. LATIN AMERICAN DEPENDENCY ON US INCREASED DURING WW II AND IN DECADE FOLLOWING DUE TO LACK OF LA TRADE/ CULTURAL TIES WITH EUROPE AND REST OF THE WORLD. AGAINST THAT BACKGROUND, GOVERNMENT OF CHILE HAD PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT ECLA AS LA OPENING TO REST OF WORLD AND CLEARLY AS MEANS TO COUNTER TREND TOWARD INCREASING DEPENDENCY ON US.

2. IN SWEEPING SENTENCE HE TRACED GROWTH OF LA INDEPENDENCE FROM US FROM DECLARATION OF VINA DEL MAR TO MARCH 1973 SESSION OF UN SC IN PANAMA. HE THEN TURNED TO ECLA' S FUTURE, INTRODUCING THIS SECTION BY INSISTING THAT HIS STATEMENT REPRESENTED ONLY PERSONAL VIEWS AND WAS NOT STATEMENT OF CHILEAN DELEGATION OR GOVERNMENT' S VIEWS. HE SAID THAT LA EVOLUTION OVER 25 YEAR PERIOD HAD BEEN CONSIDERABLE ALTHOUGH LAMENTABLY SLOW IN SOCIAL AREA. HE TOUCHED ON FACT THAT NEW NATIONS HAD ENTERED INTER- AMERICAN SYSTEM, THAT SOCIALIST COUNTRIES WERE NOW INCLUDED, ON EFFECT OF POPULATION GROWTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS. IN GLOBAL TERMS, HE MENTIONED AS SIGNIFICANT CHANGES THE GROWTH IN SIZE AND IMPACT OF INTER-NATIONAL COMMUNITY OF SOCIALIST COUNTRIES, END OF COLD WAR, AND THE EMERGENCE OF THE MULTINATIONAL COOPERATIONS AS A DANGER TO SOVEREIGN GOVERNMENTS. HE DESCRIBED MULTINATIONALS AS BEING " MOREE THAN STATES WITHIN STATES" AND MORE LIKE " PLANETS WITHIN OUR OWN PLANET". HE DESCRIBED COMMITTEE OF 20 AS NOT PROVIDING AUTHENTIC PARTICIPATION FOR LDCS IN INTERNATIONAL MONETARY ARRANGEMENTS.

3. RETURNING TO ECLA THEME, HE SAID THAT FOUNDING OF CECLA WHICH HE DESCRIBED AS " GENUINE LA BODY" REPRESENTED SYMBOL OF LAS PARTIAL SUCCESSES IN ERADICATING EXTERNAL DEPENDENCY. HE SAID THAT GENUINE UNCLASSIFIED

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LA SYSTEM WILL HAVE TO SUBSTITUTE FOR THE EXISTING

INTER- AMERICAN SYSTEM. HE SAID THAT THE INTER- AMERICAN SYSTEM WHILE USEFUL COULD NOT BE AN INSTRUMENT FOR THE ANALYSIS OF LA PROBLEMS, POLICIES OR GLOBAL PROBLEMS OF CONCERN TO LATINS. HE SAID THAT THE TIME HAD COME TO SPEAK FRANKLY ON THIS QUESTION OF PARTICIPATION OF NON- LATIN AMERICAN STATES IN ECLA. HE SAID THAT THE CONDITIONS AND HISTORIC REASONS FOR INCLUSION OF NON- LATIN AMERICANS HAD NOW CHANGED TO THE POINT THAT THE COMPOSITION OF ECLA AS IT NOW STANDS IS DETRIMENTAL TO LA INTERESTS. HE NOTED THAT ALTHOUGH LA INTERESTS DID ON OCCASION COINCIDE WITH THOSE OF

WESTERN EUROPEANS AND/ OR THE US, THESE INTERESTS COULD BE TAKEN UP IN CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN A NEW ALL LA ORGANIZATION AND COUNTRIES OR GROUPS OF COUNTRIES AS WOULD BE REQUIRED. HE MENTIONED IN THIS CONNECTION THAT THE LATINS WOULD HAVE TO CONSULT ALSO WITH EASTERN EUROPEANS AND GROUPS IN THE THIRD WORLD.
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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ARA-11 ADP-00 AID-20 EB-11 NSC-10 RSC-01

CIEP-02 SAL-01 SS-14 STR-08 OMB-01 CEA-02 OPIC-12

TRSE-00 CIAE-00 INR-09 NSAE-00 RSR-01 /117 W
----- 014861

R 242211 Z MAR 73
FM AMEMBASSY QUITO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6917
INFO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO
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4. HE STATED THAT FURTHER ATTEMPTS TO INTEGRATE THE INTER- AMERICAN SYSTEM WERE NOT IN THE INTEREST OF LA S. HE DESCRIBED THE PRESENT INTER- AMERICAN SYSTEM AS BEING " INCOMPLETE OBSOLETE AND IRREGULAR". HE SAID

THAT CECLA, HAVING NO SECRETARIAT AND MEETING ONLY THREE OR FOUR TIMES A YEAR DID NOT MEET LATIN NEEDS FULLY AND STATED THAT LAS NEED MORE FROM THE REGIONAL ECONOMIC COMMISSIONS. HE FINALLY STATED THAT ECLA SHOULD BE A GENUINE LA INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGENCY. HE STATED THAT THIS OPINION WAS NOT BASED ON NATIONALISTIC AND CHAUVINISTIC ATTITUDES BUT WAS BASED ON THE CONVICTION THAT LA INTERESTS WOULD BE BETTER SERVED AND THAT THE INTEREST OF OTHERS INVOLVED WOULD NOT BE DAMAGED BY SUCH A CHANGE.

5. HE STATED THAT THERE WERE ALREADY SUFFICIENT ORGANIZATIONS WITHIN THE UN AND INTER- AMERICAN SYSTEMS TO PROVIDE FOR DEBATES ALONG TRADITIONAL ECLA LINES. HE MENTIONED ECOSOC AND UNCTAD. THE SPEECH ENDED WITH SANTA CRUZ NOTING THE TREND TOWARD INTEGRATION AND HIS SUGGESTION THAT THE LA INTEGRATION PROCESS SHOULD BE ACCELERATED AS ONE MEANS OF PROMOTING THE CAUSE OF RIDDING LA OF DEPENDENCY AND PROMOTING LA INTELLECTUAL INDEPENDENCE.

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6. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH THE DELEGATIONS APPLAUDED SANTA CRUZ ROUNDLY AT THE END OF THIS SPEECH, THE US DEL HAS RECEIVED VERY LITTLE IN THE WAY OF COMMENT FROM OTHER DELEGATIONS ON THE SPEECH. EXECUTIVE SECRETARY IGLESIAS SAID IN PRIVATE CONVERSATION WITH ZAGORIN THAT THE SPEECH INsofar AS IT ADDRESSED THE QUESTION OF THE ORGANIZATION OR REORGANIZATION OF ECLA, WOULD NOT BE COMMENTED UPON THE SECRETARIAT. HE FELT THAT THESE QUESTIONS WERE NOT PROPERLY RAISED IN ECLA SINCE ECOSOC WOULD BE THE APPROPRIATE FORUM FOR SUCH DISCUSSION, THE PROBLEM INVOLVING AS IT DOES MAJOR ARRANGEMENTS OF UN BODIES. IGLESIAS ALSO SAID SANTA CRUZ STATEMENT WAS PERSONAL AND WAS NOT OFFICIAL. THE QUITO PRESS HAS PAID SOME ATTENTION TO THE SPEECH BUT COVERAGE WAS MINOR. SANTA CRUZ AT DINNER FOLLOWING STATEMENT REITERATED THAT STATEMENT HAD BEEN PURELY PERSONAL AND DID NOT REPRESENT AN OFFICIAL POSITION.
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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** UNCLASSIFIED

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 MAR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973QUITO01476
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: QUITO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730336/aaaaifga.tel
Line Count: 219
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: shawdg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07 NOV 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <07-Nov-2001 by elbezefj>; APPROVED <30-Jan-2002 by shawdg>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> srp 971222
Subject: ECLA 15 TH SESSION: AMB SANTA CRUZ' STATEMENT
TAGS: OCON, ECLA
To: IO
STATE INFO SANTIAGO
USUN NEW YORK
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005